

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 0909

E.O. 11652: GDS 12/31/80

TAGS: MCAP NATO

SUBJ: NATO FORCE PROPOSALS/GOALS 1975-1980

REFS: A. STATE 030893 B. USNATO 0835

SUMMARY. ACCORDING TO INTERNATIONAL STAFF'S DIRECTOR FOR FORCE PLANNING, DEFENSE REVIEW COMMITTEE (DRC) WILL HANDLE COUNTRY EXAMINATIONS BY REGIONS STARTING WEEK OF MARCH 4, PROBABLY BEGINNING WITH CENTRAL REGION. IS WILL ASK FOR REPRESENTATIVES FROM CAPITALS FOR INDIVIDUAL COUNTRY'S EXAMINATION. END SUMMARY.

1. ON FEB 18, US DRC REPRESENTATIVE (CLINARD) MET INFORMALLY WITH IS DIRECTOR FOR FORCE PLANNING (BRABAND) TO REVIEW SCHEDULE FOR DRC COUNTRY EXAMINATIONS OF DRAFT FORCE GOALS (PARA 4, REFTel A).

2. US REP INQUIRED ABOUT EXPECTED SCOPE OF FEB 21 DRC DISCUSSION OF QTE PROCEDURES FOR THE NATO DEFENSE PLANNING REVIEW- NATO FORCE GOALS UNQTE (AGENDA FOR MEETING SENT SEPTel. BRABAND SAID FEB 21 DRC DISCUSSION WOULD BE LIMITED TO SCHEDULE AND PROCEDURES FOR EXAMINATIONS AND WOULD NOT GO INTO SUBSTANCE OF CONFIDENTIAL

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FORCE PROPOSALS OR CHANGES IN FORCE PLANNING PROCESS.

3. BRABAND RECALLED FORCE GOALS EXERCISE OF TWO YEARS AGO, DURING WHICH SOME COUNTRIES ACCEPTED FORCE GOALS

WHICH EVEN AT THAT TIME DECLARED TO BE UNREALISTIC. IS IS DETERMINED, HE SAID, TO PREVENT A RECURRENCE OF THAT EXERCISE BY PRODUCING BETTER DRAFT COUNTRY CHAPTERS WHICH DEPICT FORCE PROPOSALS AGAINST COUNTRY PLANS, IDENTIFY THE MAIN EMPHASIS IN FORCE PROPOSALS, AND TRY TO PORTRAY THE TOTAL ADDITIONAL COSTS OF DRAFT FORCE GOALS.

4. IS WILL BEGIN ISSUING DRAFT COUNTRY CHAPTERS BY THE END OF THIS WEEK WITH A VIEW TO BEGINNING DRC COUNTRY EXAMINATIONS THE WEEK OF MARCH 4. BRABAND SUGGESTED THAT THE DRC HANDLE COUNTRY EXAMINATIONS BY REGIONS, POSSIBLY BEGINNING WITH THE CENTRAL REGION (WHICH WOULD INCLUDE US). HE DOES NOT YET HAVE A FIRM SCHEDULE FOR EXAMINATIONS BUT MAY HAVE FURTHER INFORMATION BY TIME OF DRC MEETING FEB 21.

5. BRABAND SAID DRC AHRIMAN, DURING FEB 21 MEETING, WAS LIKELY TO URGE THAT COUNTRIES BEING EXAMINED IN DRC HAVE REPRESENTATIVES PRESENT FROMM CAPITALS WHO WERE QTE IN A POSITION TO ARGUE ABOUT FORCE

PROPOSALS AND TO AGREE, AT LEAST AD REFERENDUM, TO MODIFICATIONS TO FORCE PROPOSALS UNQTE.

COMMENT: WE BELIEVE IS IDEA OF HAVING INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES SUPPLY SENIOR REPRESENTATIVES FROM CAPITALS DURING DRC DISCUSSION OF THEIR DRAFT FORCE GOALS IS A GOOD ONE. WE WILL, OF COURSE, ADVISE AS SOON AS DATE OF DRC EXAMINATION FOR US IS SET; IN MEANTIME, WE RECOMMEND THAT WASHINGTON CONSIDER SENDING APPROPRIATE REPRESENTATIVE(S) TO BRUSSELS DURING WEEK OF MARCH 4 FOR THE REVIEW OF US FORCE GOALS.

6. MISSION WILL TRANSMIT SCHEDULE FOR DRC COUNTRY EXAMINATIONS AS SOON AS IT IS AVAILABLE. RUMSFELD

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